

cal Survey, in his report to the Government in 1896, entirely confirms this. He speaks of all Southern Labrador to 54 degrees N. latitude as a subarctic forest belt consisting of nine varieties of trees. It is continuous with the exception of the summits of rocky hills. In latitude 55 he states more than half the country is treeless, but as far north as 58 valleys and lake edges are wooded. Black spruce (*picea nigra*) constitutes, he claims, 90 per cent. of the trees and, next to it, and more hardy than it, is *Larix Americana*. E. B. Delabarre of Brown University substantiates Low's statements except for saying that the trees near the coast itself are limited to the protected valleys and bay heads. Personally I have visited the bottoms of most of the fyords as far north as Kikkeroaktokak (Finger Bay), just north of Nain, and then west round Cape Chidly into Ungava Bay. At the head of Nain Bay, 40 miles inside or west of Nain, and 60 miles from the outer islands, the forest was very dense on the hillsides and of good spruce. Along the rivers and valleys between Cape Harrison and Hamilton Inlet and north as far as Hopedale there is also quite a lot of forest. I have seen from Big River in Adlavik Bay spars over seventy feet long floated out. But how far into the land the forest runs there, I am unable to say. There is no timber on the coast line north of Hebron, and little inside Cape Mugford till the heads of the bays are reached, or the valley of Georges River. The Valleys of the Grand River and the Norwest River, the Kenaonou, Kenamish, and Mulligan's river in Hamilton Inlet have all a good quantity of timber that would serve for paper pulp many years, and afford some for lumber of good size.

With some University students I made a tour into the country this summer at the bottom of Lewis Bay to look at the timber, where we have at last succeeded in obtaining just 25 square miles on the extreme seaboard and have been instrumental in starting a small mill that is employing 40 families. The land is a series of hills and valleys, the latter filled with lakes and the sheltered hillsides being covered with excellent timber. These self-draining slopes are apparently far

the best for the tree growth, although the ability of the ground to hold up tall trees in heavy gales of wind is limited to some extent. On the almost perpendicular sides of the lofty cliffs that flank the extreme northern fyords, I have seen the whole ground covering of the entire hill face that has slipped off, carrying every vestige of vegetation with it in headlong ruin into one huge mass at the foot of the cliffs.

Some 70 Feet High

The valley of Grand River up to the Falls has been burnt over and the original big spruce deteriorated into smaller timber, though in many places fine logs for sawing into lumber abound. There is endless power in these rivers that can be utilized if needed. Round the Falls itself the trees are mostly spruces and according to Eugene Delano and A. P. Low, are 70 feet in height. An experienced lumberman, Mr. Martin, of St. Johns, Newfoundland, who recently made a personal investigation of parts of the coast tells me that nothing but lack of labor, and the inability to obtain sound titles to land grants because the boundary question remains unsettled, prevent profitable pulp and paper industries being opened on the East Labrador Coast. Manufacturing there should be very cheap and though shipping to Europe would probably have to be made between late June and early December, the distance is so short and so safe, that commercial results, as successful as those of Lord Northcliffe's mills in Central Newfoundland, should be quite possible.

Not So Cold in Labrador.

The actual temperatures on Labrador are not nearly as severe as further from the seaboard. The minimum temperature has scarcely ever been known to be as low as 40 degrees F. This was greatly impressed upon me when the very successful mills at Iroquois Falls, Ontario, were being started. A hundred men from Newfoundland and Labrador went to work there. Practically none remained long and all to whom I spoke complained of it being too cold for them. All of my colleagues, both doctors and nurses, who have visited in Labrador have thoroughly enjoyed the winter